

Marcia Swanston,
mezzo-soprano
Candidate for Position in Voice

with
Michael Massey, piano

Friday, February 8, 2008 at 3:00 pm



Convocation
Hall

Arts Building
University of Alberta

Program



DEPARTMENT OF
MUSIC

Program

Ronde d'amour
Viens, mon bien aimé!
Mots d'amour
Espoir

Cécile Chaminade
(1857–1944)

Drei Lieder der Ophelia, Op. 67

Richard Strauss
(1864–1949)

- I Wie erkenn' ich mein Treulieb?
- II Guten Morgen, 's ist Sankt Valentinstag
- III Sie trugen ihn auf der Bahre bloß

From "La Gioconda"
Voce di donna

Amilcare Ponchielli
(1834–1886)

From "Vanessa"
Must the winter come so soon

Samuel Barber
(1910 – 1981)

From "Samson et Dalila"
Mon coeur s'ouvre à ta voix

Camille Saint-Saëns
(1835 – 1921)

Marcia Swanston, mezzo-soprano, has been critically acclaimed for her vocal beauty and technical ease as well as her wide-ranging acting ability and dramatic musical interpretation. She enjoys a varied career commanding an impressive array of vivid operatic roles as well as a vast array of oratorio and concert repertoire.

She appears frequently with opera companies and orchestras across Canada and the United States in roles ranging from Azucena in *Il Trovatore* (Pacific Opera) and Mrs. Grose in *The Turn of the Screw* (Canadian Opera Company, L'Opera de Montreal and Pacific Opera) to Marcellina in *Le Nozze de Figaro* (Canadian Opera Company, Edmonton Opera and Vancouver Opera). After receiving a B.Mus. from the University of Lethbridge, Ms. Swanston completed post-graduate studies in England at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, followed by extensive study with master teachers at the Britten Pears School for Advanced Musical Study in Suffolk, England.

In 2006-7, she was heard as Marte in *Faust* with Vancouver Opera, Beethoven's 9th *Symphony* and Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* with Symphony Nova Scotia, and Bach's *Johannespassion* with Richard Eaton Singers. In the current season she has just completed performances of *The Ballad of Baby Doe* with Calgary Opera, and earlier this season she sang Mama Lucia in *Cavalleria Rusticana* with Vancouver Opera and *Messiah* with Symphony Nova Scotia.

Ms Swanston, a respected vocal pedagogue and clinician, taught voice at the University of Western Ontario prior to assuming a position as Associate Professor in the Department of Music at Dalhousie University in the fall of 2001.

